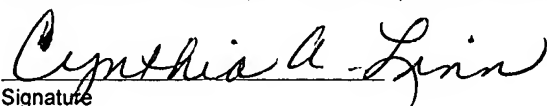




07-27-04

EPW

CERTIFICATE OF EXPRESS MAIL	
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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:
Berger et al.

Serial No.: 10/604,084

Confirmation No.: 1083

Filed: June 25, 2003

For: Power Cord Connector for an Appliance

Group Art Unit: 2839

Examiner: Thanh Tam T. Le

Atty. Dkt. No.: 10807.0109.NPUS01

RESPONSE TO JUNE 28, 2004 RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

Commissioner for Patents
P. O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

Sir:

This paper is submitted in response to the Restriction Requirement dated June 28, 2004 for which the date for response is July 28, 2004. It is believed that no other fee is due with the filing of this Response; however, should any fees be required for any reason, the Commissioner is authorized to deduct said fees from Howrey Simon Arnold & White, LLP Deposit Account No. 01-2508/10807.0109.NPUS01.

In an effort to move this case along, and in response to the restriction requirement which the Examiner imposed, Applicant provisionally elects -- with traverse -- to prosecute Species I corresponding to the following claims: Claims 1-12, 14, 17-24, 28-34, 38-46, and 50-51.

Applicant respectfully traverses the Examiner's restriction requirement because Species II-IV (represented by figures 9-11C) merely provide alternate retaining means for ensuring engagement of the conductive member with the metal container.

Applicant also respectfully asserts that independent claim 18 is generic. Each of Species I-IV contain the limitations of claim 18, and namely "a conductive member being electrically connected to the ground wire and capable of engaging the metal portion." As such, Applicant is entitled to consideration of all claims associated with all four species as provided by 37 CFR 1.141.

The Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned attorney at 713.787.1496 with any questions, comments or suggestions relating to the referenced patent application.

Please date stamp and return the enclosed postcard evidencing receipt of these materials.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: 7/26/04



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